

his election which would be 1991. The last salary adjustment in the case of the bill as it was introduced was in 1978 and, obviously, this is a cap. They could do less than that, although I would imagine that the salaries would be adjusted to the maximum level permitted. I would move the bill be advanced as amended.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Thank you. For purposes of discussion, Senator Schellpeper, followed by Senator Wesely.

**SENATOR SCHELLPEPER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members. I rise to also support this bill. I served a little over 20 years as a director of a local public power district in Stanton, and I can tell you there were many times that I had to go to some meetings when you didn't get compensated your per diem because it just isn't high enough. And in order to be a good director and attend some of the conferences, you have to go to these meetings. Otherwise, if you don't, you just kind of lose out. So I think this is a step in the right direction. We are not giving a salary that is really going to make anybody rich, but it is a salary that will compensate the board members that serve on these boards. Thank you.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Senator Wesely, please.

**SENATOR WESELY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. When Senator Warner closes, I was just talking to him about the time spent on the job here, and it is the only question I would raise, and I plan to support this. Although the question I'd have is how much time these individuals put into the job. Just relatively speaking, the amount of time and effort we put into this Legislature, and get paid \$12,000 a year, so if you use that as a benchmark, you would have people being paid much less than they even are now, I think, in terms of the hours and time they put in, not only for these types of boards, but you look around at county boards that get paid in the \$20,000 range, and the sort of meetings that they have to go to, and I just simply think it is an opportunity, once again, to point out the amount of time and effort we put into this job in the Legislature and the pay we get, even at \$12,000. Thanks to the Speaker and others who have helped us raise the salary, it is still woefully inadequate, and probably for any public office in the state is the least paid for the most work of any of them. So all I would say is that relative to the work and reimbursement of the Legislature, you would not want to increase, under this bill,